

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for controlling a parameter of at least one signal, including the steps of:

receiving a desired command signal from at least one control input;
determining a potential condition for receiving an undesired command signal from at least one other control input;
~~activating a desired command as a function of the desired command signal;~~
controlling a parameter of ~~[[a]]~~ an undesired command signal received from the at least one other control input in response to the potential condition; and
delivering the desired command signal and the ~~controlled parameter~~ undesired command signal to at least one output.

2. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein receiving a desired command signal includes the step of receiving a desired command signal from at least one axis of a joystick.

3. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein receiving a desired command signal includes the step of receiving a desired command signal from at least one lever.

4. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein receiving a desired command signal includes the step of receiving a desired command signal from an automated program.

5. (Original) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein receiving a desired command signal includes the step of receiving a desired command signal from a proportional output device.

6. (Currently amended) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein controlling a parameter of ~~[[a]]~~ an undesired command signal includes the step of increasing an amount of deadband of the at least one other control input.

7. (Currently amended) A method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein controlling a parameter of ~~[[a]]~~ an undesired command signal includes the step of controlling a gain parameter of the at least one other control input.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus for controlling a parameter of at least one signal, comprising:

a plurality of control inputs; and

a controller for:

receiving a ~~desired~~ first command signal from at least one control input;

determining a potential condition for receiving an undesired command signal from at least one other control input;

~~activating a desired command as a function of the desired command signal;~~

receiving a second command from the at least one other input;

controlling a parameter of ~~[[a]]~~ the second command signal ~~from the at least one other control input~~ in response to the potential condition; and

delivering the ~~desired~~ first and second command ~~signal~~ signals and the ~~controlled parameter undesired command signal~~ to at least one output.

9. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the plurality of control inputs includes a joystick.

10. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 9, wherein the joystick includes a plurality of axes, each axis providing an associated control input.

11. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the plurality of control inputs includes at least one lever.

12. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the plurality of control inputs includes at least one automated program for initiating a command signal.

13. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the plurality of control inputs includes at least one proportional output device.

14. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the plurality of control inputs includes at least one of a joystick, a lever and an automated program.

15. (Original) An apparatus, as set forth in claim 8, wherein the controller includes:

an input/output control interface; and

at least one of a deadband control function and a gain control function.